Name: _____   Date: _____

Rubric for Opinion Writing—Kindergarten

	Pre-Kindergarten (2 POINTS)	2.5 PTS	Kindergarten (3 POINTS)	3.5 PTS	Grade 1 (4 POINTS)	SCORE
STRUCTURE						
Overall	The writer told about something she liked or disliked with pictures and some "writing."	Mid-level	The writer told, drew, and wrote his opinion or likes and dislikes about a topic or book.	Mid-level	The writer wrote her opinion or her likes and dislikes and said why.	
Lead	The writer started by drawing or saying something.	Mid-level	The writer wrote her opinion in the beginning.	Mid-level	The writer wrote a beginning in which he got readers' attention. He named the topic or text he was writing about and gave his opinion.	
Transitions	The writer kept on working.	Mid-level	The writer wrote his idea and then said more. He used words such as *because*.	Mid-level	The writer said more about her opinion and used words such as *and* and *because*.	
Ending	The writer ended working when he had said, drawn, and "written" all he could about his opinion.	Mid-level	The writer had a last part or page.	Mid-level	The writer wrote an ending for his piece.	
Organization	On the writer's paper, there was a place for the drawing and a place where she tried to write words.	Mid-level	The writer told his opinion in one place and in another place he said why.	Mid-level	The writer wrote a part where she got readers' attention and a part where she said more.	
						TOTAL
DEVELOPMENT						
Elaboration*	The writer put more and then more on the page.	Mid-level	The writer put everything she thought about the topic (or book) on the page.	Mid-level	The writer wrote at least one reason for his opinion.	(X2)
Craft*	The writer said, drew, and "wrote" some things about what she liked and did not like.	Mid-level	The writer had details in pictures and words.	Mid-level	The writer used labels and words to give details.	(X2)
						TOTAL

* Elaboration and Craft are double-weighted categories: Whatever score a student would get in these categories is worth double the amount of points. For example, if a student exceeds expectations in Elaboration, then that student would receive 8 points instead of 4 points. If a student meets standards in Elaboration, then that student would receive 6 points instead of 3 points.

	Pre-Kindergarten (2 POINTS)	2.5 PTS	Kindergarten (3 POINTS)	3.5 PTS	Grade 1 (4 POINTS)	SCORE
LANGUAGE CONVENTIONS						
Spelling	The writer could read his pictures and some of his words. The writer tried to make words.	Mid-level	The writer could read her writing. The writer wrote a letter for the sounds she heard. The writer used the word wall to help her spell.	Mid-level	The writer used all he knew about words and chunks of words (*at*, *op*, *it*, etc.) to help him spell. The writer spelled all the word wall words right and used the word wall to help him spell other words.	
Punctuation	The writer could label pictures. The writer could write her name.	Mid-level	The writer put spaces between words. The writer used lowercase letters unless capitals were needed. The writer wrote capital letters to start every sentence.	Mid-level	The writer ended sentences with punctuation. The writer used a capital letter for names. The writer used commas in dates and lists.	
						TOTAL

Teachers, we created these rubrics so you will have your own place to pull together scores of student work. You can use these assessments immediately after giving the on-demands and also for self-assessment and setting goals.

Scoring Guide

In each row, circle the descriptor in the column that matches the student work. Scores in the categories of Elaboration and Craft are worth double the point value (*4*, *5*, *6*, *7*, or *8* instead of *2*, *2.5*, *3*, *3.5*, or *4*).

Total the number of points and then track students' progress by seeing when the total points increase.

Total score: _____

If you want to translate this score into a grade, you can use the provided table to score each student on a scale of 0–4.

Number of Points	Scaled Score
2–22	**2**
22.5–27.5	**2.5**
28–33	**3**
33.5–38.5	**3.5**
39–44	**4**